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In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

VIRGINIA PRESS ASSOCIATION

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Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ..... *Editors and Publishers*

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LUMBERING MATURES

A logging contract recently let on the great Superior National Forest in northeastern Minnesota points up the happy contrast between timber harvesting in our day and the rape of the forests that took place a few decades ago.

Under the contract, a paper company will cut sawlogs and pulpwood on a tract of nearly 12,000 acres. The company will pay more than $400,000 for the privilege of cutting and taking out this wood.

Time was when such a firm would have gone into the timbered area like a buzz saw, cutting and slashing, taking the best trees and leaving the runts and the slash to make a breeding ground for forest fires. But great changes have come about. The cutting under this contract, as under other contracts with the government, will be done with the U. S. Forest Service zealously watching every step.

Care will be taken to assure future growth in the cut-over area. Slash will be disposed of to reduce the danger of fire and insect devastation. A border of timber will be left around the lakes so that the beauty of the area will be preserved for canoers and other visitors.

This is a far cry from the methods of the timber barons of other days. It is a tribute to the enlightenment fostered by conservationists and, most especially, by the Forest Service. America is beginning to learn that forests will be here forever only if we take care of them in our time. —Eastern Shore News.

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PRESS CAN PRESERVE FREEDOM

In the editorial columns and on the front pages of newspapers and from the speakers' platforms, we constantly hear about the "freedom of the press."

Newspaper editors and publishers are constantly seeking ways to safeguard the "freedom of the press." There is no reason for the search to be prolonged or difficult, for this right is guaranteed under the Constitution of the United States.

"Freedom of the press" is a right which carries certain definite responsibilities with it. All that the newspapers of the nation have to do, to protect and preserve the "freedom of the press" is to see to it that they rigorously perform the duties that the public has a right to expect of a free press.

As long as the people of this country believe that the press, in fact, is free, there is no danger whatever of the newspapers losing their freedom." If the public ever becomes convinced that the newspapers of this country are deliberately distorting the news, misrepresenting officials, or otherwise using their journals for selfish purposes, there will be no need for them to clamor about a free press.

The general public, disgusted with a syncophant press, will applaud any step taken to curb unbridled license. A decent code of ethics, a sense of responsibility and the evidence of a desire to serve the public well will go far towards preserving the "freedom of the press."

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A GREAT STORY

Sometimes the great stories are buried on the inside pages of today's newspapers, and we are happy to mention a great drama which occurred in Charleston, S. C. recently.

Mrs. O. E. Rakoske was mowing her lawn. As she pushed the mower along, she was suddenly bitten by a copperhead snake, which struck her on her foot.

Mrs. Rakoske was terrified, as she screamed and tried to shake the snake loose from her foot by kicking. Her screams brought a young Boy Scout, playing nearby, to the scene. His arrival, it turned out, saved her life.

Harold Murray, the Scout, quickly identified the snake as a poisonous one, killed it with a shovel and warned Mrs. Rakoske that she should go to the hospital. Mrs. Rakoske did not think the snake was poisonous and said she would like to go inside, but was talked out of it by the boy, who sent another youngster for her husband and an automobile. He immediately used a knife to apply a crosscut over the bites (there had been two) and began to suck the wounds, after applying a tourniquet.

The lad stayed with Mrs. Rakoske in the car as she was driven to the hospital, sucking the blood and checking the tourniquet. When she arrived at the hospital, doctors told her that the bites would have proven fatal, had not she been treated quickly, and that young Murray's action in all probability had saved her life.

If there was ever a Boy Scout story, and an incident to prove the value of Scout training, this is one. We are glad to recount such a tale of genuince devotion to Scout duty, which reflects the highest credit on young Murray, and the Boy Scouts—the organization responsible for having taught him to identify snakes and take the proper action in the event of bites. It is a wonderful story which should add a little warmth to the heart of everyone.

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CHANGING THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

Congress has from time to time concerned itself with the Electoral College system of electing Presidents of the United States. That some reform, and a change from the "winner take all" system of computing electoral votes within the states, is needed, has long been evident.

As of now, all of the electors from a state must vote for the candidate who receives the largest number of popular votes in that state. Thus, if, in a larger state, one candidate receives 2,000,000, while his opponent receives 2,000,005, the candidate who got the five more popular votes, gets all of that state's electoral votes. This is not always fair, and sometimes results in "landslides" in the electoral college, whereas actually the popular vote was close. Or, it may work the opposite way and give an electoral college victory to a candidate who did not receive a majority of the popular vote of the nation.

To amend the Constitution is a slow process. Perhaps this is fortunate, in that hasty changes in the fundamental law of the law could be undesirable in the long span of time. But our goal should be toward a democratic process in the election of our President and to achieve that goal, continued thought should be directed toward a suitable imporvement over the present system. One suggestion has been made, in the form of a proposal that a state's electoral vote be prorated percentagewise in proportion to its popular vote. On the surface, that would seem worth further investigation, and perhaps submission in the form of an amendment.

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The hardest task is to refuse to be tempted by false honors.

Summer Vacation in Va. -- 1956

Richmond, Va.- Happy indeed are the holidays to come, and visitors to hospitable Virginia this summer will find more has been done to make their visit memorable than ever before, according to the Virginia Travel Council.

Among other things, the Old Dominion will offer four major Tercentenary celebrations for their entertainment. Elaborate schedules lasting sometimes for months, ranging from all varieties of the light fantastic to golf events, pageants and old fiddlers contests are on the agenda for Galax, Bristol and Wise County in the Southwest, to the event studded Golden Jubilee at Virginia Beach.

More than $25,000,000 in new and improved accomodations welcome the visitor this year. One of the most spectacular housing developments for the vacationists has been the advent of super - duper motor courts on the beach at Virginia Beach. Others include a $3,500,000 motel development near Alexandria and the construction of more than a score of new swimming pools, now almost as plentiful along the highways as were hot dog and root running water twenty years ago.

In the Williamsburg area of Virginia's Historic Peninsula, the Federal government and the Williamsburg Restoration are in the midst of a $23,000,000 development, which includes new museums, information centers at Jamestown, Williamsburg, and Yorktown, and new exhibitions and other buildings, all sparked by the forthcoming 350th birthday of Virginia and the nation taking place in 1957.

Along the highways new accomodations have mushroomed, and the Virginia State Highway Commission, builder of the second largest highway system in the nation, is spending a record number of millions streamlining an already splendid highway system. Many miles of four-lane, divided highways are in the making, to add to many miles added last year.

In addition, an entirely new set of markers, designed for camera bugs and informing motorists in advance of "photoscenic" locations, are rapidly being erected. All will be provided with turnouts and are selected to avoid any possible highway hazard.

The Bristol Centennial will sponsor the pageant, "Horn in the West" at the Virginia Intermont College amphitheatre on June 22 From July 13 through 26, the Boardwalk Art Show, the Lotus Festival, and Ball (saluting the only known lotus on the eastern seaboard), the Virginia Beach Neptune Circus, the Sail Fish Races and Regatta in surf off shore will be held; on August 11 and 12 the Water Fete Outboard Motor Regatta takes place; on August 12, the Ocean Yacht Parade and the Ocean Sailing Yacht Races. On August 20, the Golden Jubilee Grand Ball will climax the summer portion of the Jubilee festivities.

"The Common Glory," opening June 23 through September 2, at Williamsburg, for its tenth season, has become a tradition, where visitors may watch this first rate historical drama unfold under the stars, against the backdrop of Lake Matoaka, featuring a capella choir, a noted dance group, and cast of 150.

Virginia's quaint Eastern Shore, with its wide sandy beaches, shells, sunbathing, deep-sea fishing, and both surfside and bay bathing is a natural for families with children, and its remote beaches meet the most stringent requirements of those who want to "get away from it all." At Chincoteague, one of the Shore's gayest holidays gets under way on July 26 and 27 with the Annual Pony Penning and roundup and auction of wild ponies.

NEWS FOR VETERANS

Additional indemnity and GI insurance coverage is provided by a new law for certain persons who have served under the 1955 Reserve Forces Act, Veterans Administration announced.

The persons generally affected is are those up to 18 1-2 years of age who enlist for eight years in the ready reserve- of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard reserves and are required to serve an initial period of six months in active training duty.

Heretofore, these persons were covered by the free $10,000 indemnity against death while they were in service and for only 30 days after leaving service.

Under the new act, which is Public Law 490, the 30-day indemnity coverage after service is extended to 120 days, retroactive to August 9, 1955.

The new law also for the first time permits these persons to apply for the special 5-year nonconvertible term policy. Application must be made and the first premium must be paid within the 120-day period of indemnity coverage after service.

HUNTERS MAY NOW PLAN THEIR VACATIONS

Telephone calls and letters asking about the opening of the hunting season have been pouring in upon Webb Midyette, chief of the law enforcement division of the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries, To assist eager sportsmen in planning their vacations, Midyette wishes to announce a general deer hunting season to open the third Monday in November, the 19th, and to run through January 5th. The season west of the Blue Ridge Mountains, however, will be only 6 days, from Nov. 19 through November 24.

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Asks Traffic Law Enforcement

New York.- Americans are speeding toward the highest traffic accident, injury and fatality experience in the nation's history, declares Thomas N. Boate, manager of the Accident Prevention Department of the Association of Casualty and Surety Companies. Greatly increased traffic law enforcement activities, he warned, are imperative for the protection of motorists and pedestrians alike.

"Last year," Mr. Boate said, "the nation suffered 38,200 traffic deaths, 3,158,000 injuries and 9,600,000 accidents. During the first quarter of this year, we were 10 per cent ahead of figures for the same period last year. If this rate continues we will end 1956 with 40,140 deaths, 2,373,500 injuries, and 10,000,000 accidents on our highways.

"Finally at this time of the year we are making plans to attempt to control the rash of accidents that invariably occur over holidays. But the present rate of increase controls such efforts may be purely academic. The rate for any one holiday will be so high that holidays may well be lost in the shuffle.

"If we are being told that in terms of miles driven and exposure to accidents, we are killing fewer people than ever before. At the most, all that this proves is that people can drive a few more miles before they have an accident. It doesn't alter the fact that 26,000 accidents occur each day, and that last year almost one out of every 4,000 Americans dies on the highway.

"Last year, 2,000,000 pleasure trips ended in highway disaster, and to me it is no consolation to know that although I'm marked for death, I have the dubious privilege of driving a few more miles before I am brought to an unnecessary and terrible end of life's journey.

"We know that 80 per cent of all accidents result from driver errors. Last year, for instance, the leading causes of highway death were exceeding the speed limit, driving on the wrong side of the road, failing to yield the right-of-way, driving off the roadway, and just plain reckless driving.

"Obviously, the ideal way to stop traffic accidents is for every driver to recognize his obligation to drive cautiously and alertly and to obey our traffic laws. Experience proves, however, that this is not likely to happen yet. So, to protect motorists from themselves, as well as from chronic violators, government needs to heed the request of State Safety Coordinators, administrator of the summer-long 'Slow Down and Live' program, the most major accident reduction program. This group has called on all state governors to step up state enforcement activities and to urge mayors to do the same on local levels."

To be sincere is an art. As we sail through the muddy waters of life we acquire pretenses as easily as a ship takes on barnacles, and it's a job to scrape them off. But it's worth the effort. —For People Under Pressure.

Leisure time is the finished product of greater efficiency. —Automotive Service Digest.

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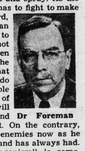
THE BIBLE SPEAKS
International Uniform Sunday School Lessons
BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Background Scripture: Acts 18:23-21:16; Ephesians 5:15-16.
Devotional Reading: Proverbs 23:1-5, 29-32.

Fighting Paganism

Lesson for June 10, 1956

CHRISTIANITY has seldom if ever spread smoothly and easily like gravy over mashed potatoes. Its history is more like a river which meets with immense rocks and boulders which tear the water into foam and spray. As the Colorado river has to fight to make its way westward, so Christ has his enemies now as he did in Galilee, and has always had. The name "paganism" is sometimes given to everything in contemporary life and thought which is actively hostile to Christ and his cause.



Dr Foremas

Did the church conquer paganism?

Already in the city of Ephesus, when St. Paul was the main preacher there, Christians ran into trouble. We sometimes think if we could get rid of our preachers and get the Apostles to take charge of our churches for a while, we would eliminate all our troubles; but St. Paul for one would not have agreed with us. We hear of opposition that became quite serious. Certain men "were hardened," "did not believe," and far from keeping their unbelief to themselves, "spoke evil of the Way" (i.e., Christian life) in the most public places ("before the multitude"). This is a sample of what Christianity, the Christian church and individual Christians, have to contend with in all ages of the church: hardened men, who are not only without faith but who will go out of their way to attack the Christians' faith. This is paganism; it has many forms but its spirit is always anti-Christian. The church both has, and has not, overcome paganism. It has won many of these enemies of Christ to become his followers, and is still doing so. It has taken the control of society out of their hands, in various times and places, as happened at Ephesus for a time. But the fact is, paganism is far from dead. In one form or other its attacks go on and on.

Missionaries of paganism

When an army stays for any length of time in a foreign territory, it usually leaves behind it words or phrases which the natives pick up, and which may become a permanent part of the local language. It was so with the English language. The Roman military occupation of England, which lasted into hundreds of years, left many souvenirs in the English language. One of the first words the Britons learned from the Romans was "wine" from the Latin **vinum.** (Incidentally, also, another word borrowed but not now used in English was a word for "buy" that comes from a Latin word for tavernkeeper.) So our very language bears testimony to the fact that the pagan Romans were everywhere missionaries of paganism, and that part of the gospel of paganism is, Liquor is a Good Thing ... so let's all have more of it!

Paganism still sends out its missionaries. On a slow boat to China not many years ago two men shared the same stateroom. One was being sent out by an American Christian church to preach the gospel of Christ. The other was a man who was keeping his son in college by selling liquor in China —sent out by a large distillery firm. Every convert made by the liquor-missionary was going to make it more difficult for the Christ-missionary; and also the other way around.

Paganism's progress

Christians too easily sit back in their easy pews and think. Paganism has been licked. St. Paul licked it, or Luther, or Wesley or somebody. We live in a Christian era, in a Christian land. Do we or don't we? There are some figures that ought to make us think. The statistics of the Internal Revenue Service of the United States, as analyzed by the Methodist Board of Temperance, show that for every church being erected in the U.S., seven retail outlets for liquor are being licensed. As of the latest count, there are 141,733 more saloons, cocktail bars and stores selling alcoholic beverages than there are churches, synagogues and temples combined. The breakdown shows 441,769 "spirits sources" as against 300,506 "spiritual sources."

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

TRANSCO NEWS .....

Local Radio Amateur Aids In Electrical Storm

Last week, after the electrical storm had moved through Appomattox, Joe Fleniken, operator of amateur Radio Station W4YTD, received a call from another amateur operator, W4IEF, Wesley Shirian, in the Promise Land vicinity. Wesley was calling from his mobile station in his car, stating that lightning had struck in their vicinity and that they had no electricty at their house. Fleniken contacted Crewe, Va., which in turn contacted one of their repair trucks and in a very short time, the necessary repairs were made and electrical service restored.

Mr. Fleniken states that amateur radio is of great help during all kinds of emergencies.

The meeting of all amateurs and others interesting in forming an Amateur Radio Club in Appomattox scheduled for Friday, June 8, is postponed until Wednesday, June 13. It will be held at the residence of J. G. Fleniken, in Transco Camp as originally planned.

The Welfare Committee of the Transco Empolyees Club, Jim Beamer, chairman, and Percy George, assistant, extend their thanks to the many people who have contributed old discarded toys and clothing. The toys are being repaired and painted as fast as they are being brought in, and being stored for Christmas and the clothing will be distributed to needy families.

They also wish to announce that toys and clothing can be left at the following pick-up points:

Tommie's Restaurant, Pamplin, Phone 8903.

Bryant Esso Service Station, at Vera, Va.

T. Hunter Dickerson's Store, Appomattox, Va., Phone 3085.

Appomattox Garment Co., Fred H. Lawson, Phone 2511.

Virginia Novelty Co., Leonard Anderson, Phone 3921.

Thanks to all of the above for their fine cooperation in such a worthy cause.

The Transco Archery Club has obtained a site for their Archery Range, on the farm of Archie Webb, south of the Compressor Station, and hopes to have a 14-target course in operation in the very near future. So, fellows, get your bow and arrows and be prepared to come out for the fun.

Visiting Mr. and Mrs. Hanley Phelps over the week-end were Mr. Edward Casey, the father of Mrs. Phelps, and Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Bryant.

Miss Bobbie Leffers, a nurse at Norfolk General Hospital, spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Leffers.

R. V. "Buddy" Leffers, student at Lynchburg College, is now with Transco Pipe Line Dept. during school vacation. He is located at Manassas, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Leffers and daughter, "Bobbie," drove to Charlottesville Monday.

Ralph Arrington and family spent the week-end fishing at his brother's, on the Rappahannock. They had good luck with croakers and crabs, Croakers weighing up to 1½ pounds were caught.

The Transco Softball Team has gotten off to a good start with two wins against two defeats. The team is improving rapidly. All the Transco people and their friends are urged to come out to the games and support our team.

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